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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/870,010	05/29/2001	Tetsuji Yamaguchi	83300.0003	8423

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EXAMINER

POON, KING Y

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/870,010	Applicant(s) YAMAGUCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner King Y. Poon	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 May 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gase (US 6,184,996).

Regarding claims 1, 3: Gase teaches a system (fig. 1) of managing image data (column 4, lines 9-34) a network (WWW, fig. 1) comprising an image input device (scanner, column 4, lines 50-65); an image forming device (printer, column 3, lines 11-15) including storage means (eventually printed, column 4, lines 60-65, inherently the printer must have a memory for storing the for storing downloaded text file if the text file is not printed right the way, note) inputted by the image input device, at least one of the image input device and the image forming device being connected to the network (fig. 1); and a client computer (e.g., 10, fig. 1), connected to the network for managing the image data stored in the storage means (e.g., when to print the image data or the number of copies, column 4, lines 20-37) via the network.

Note: Gase, column 1, lines 60-67, column 2, lines 1-10, teaches that his invention is to improve on the printer type that must have ability to establish a queue

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(storage means) for received print job to be handled in an orderly manner. It is desirable that the client processors have an ability to view the print queue and, to access information regarding the status of each print job on the print queue as well as to manage the print queue.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gase as applied to claims 1, 3 above, and further in view of Kurachi (US 6,181,436).

Regarding claims 2, 4: Gase does not teach wherein the image forming device includes a converter and a network interface; the storage means comprises a binary data storage section for storing the image data as binary data and a text data storage section for storing text data converted data from the binary data by the converted; and the network interface includes a software for managing the text data and transmits the text data stored in the text data storage section to the client computer.

Hurachi, in the same area of managing print job data stored in a printer, teaches it is desirable of transmitting image data stored in the printer to a client (column 1, lines 40-66, column 2, lines 1-10. In doing so, the image forming device includes a converter (the program code for step 64, fig. 11) and a network interface (the program code of S69, fig. 11, and 3h, fig. 9); the storage means comprises a binary data storage section

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(the storage that stored print data of S63, fig. 11; inherently all print data are binary data because computer works with data of "1" and "0") for storing the image data as binary data and a text data storage section (the storage section that stores S64; note after the modification with Gase, the rough image are text data, column 4, lines 60-65, Gase) for storing text data converted data from the binary data by the converted; and the network interface includes a software (software of step 69, fig. 11) for managing (sending the right rough image data among a plurality of rough image data) the text data and transmits the text data stored in the text data storage section to the client computer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Gase to include: wherein the image forming device includes a converter and a network interface; the storage means comprises a binary data storage section for storing the image data as binary data and a text data storage section for storing text data converted data from the binary data by the converted; and the network interface includes a software for managing the text data and transmits the text data stored in the text data storage section to the client computer, because of the reason and teaching as disclosed in column 1 and column 2, of Kurachi.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 9/29/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to applicant's argument that Gase only stores the URL references and does not store the image data itself, has been considered.

In reply: Column 4, lines 60-65, Gase teaches the text file (image data) to be downloaded to the printer and eventually printed. It is impossible for the downloaded text file to be eventually (later time) printed without storing the text file.

Column 2, lines 25-46, Gase defined the reference of the print job as URL of the print job or the identifier of the print job and the print job is the print data that is to be downloaded and eventually to be printed.

Column 1, lines 60-67, column 2, lines 1-16, clearly teaches his invention is based on universal print queue which allows multiple users access information of each print job (not identifier) on the print queue (column 1, line 67). Column 4, lines 10-20, further teaches, as modification of the conventional universal print queue, that users would exert control over the print job on the print queue. Column 3, lines 24-30, teaches when the URL of the print job reaches on the print queue, the printer would request the print job from a client. Queue, by definition, is for storing multiple data and the data would be processed in terms. Therefore, assuming the queue is for storing multiple URLs of multiple print jobs, all the URLs must reach the queue before the queue can store the URLs. According to column 3, lines 24-30, all the print jobs would be request by the printer once the URLs reaches the queue (being stored in the queue). In order for Gase's invention to work properly, Gase's printer must also have the ability to establish a queue for received print jobs so as to enable such print jobs to be handled in an orderly manner (column 1, lines 60-65).

Column 4, lines 30-32, Gase clearly teaches print jobs on the queue, not identifiers or URLs of the print job on the queue.

With respect to applicant's argument that Kurachi does not teach converting image data into text data because the printed text data is almost the same as original image, has been considered.

In reply: "Printed text data is almost the same as original image" is not a claimed limitation of claim 2.

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is 571-272-7440. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

November 26, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'King Y. Poon', with a stylized 'P' and a horizontal line at the end.

**KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER**